

**Lesson #2-10*****God's Beloved Children***

Hosea 11:1-9

**Key Verse:**

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.  
Hosea 11:1

**The Point:**

God loves us like a parent.

**Unit Theme (November 10—November 24)**

Our Sin, God's Faithfulness

***A Mother's Love***

*Reflect on God's maternal nature.*

*You will need:*

- † Bible
- † Paper
- † Crayons or markers

*Instructions:*

1. **Often in the Bible we see God depicted as a father. But in today's verses God is described using language we often use to talk about mothers: patient, guiding, bending down to feed the child. We are going to spend just a few moments thinking about how God loves us like a mother.**
2. **Pass out the paper and markers. I am going to ask you to think of different ways a mother loves her child. When**

**you have some ideas, draw a picture of your mother or another mother you know doing something that demonstrates their love.**

3. Give the students a chance to complete this activity, and then allow time to share what they created.
4. **How can the things you have drawn also be drawings of God caring for and loving us?**

*Note: This activity focuses specifically on the metaphor of God as a mother to counter the traditional view that limits God as a father (male). This is not to indicate that a parent of any gender cannot be a nurturer, only to provide a balancing image. Please also be sensitive to those who have had negative experiences with parents.*